## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1 to 54. (Cancelled).

Claim 55. (Amended) A compound having the structure

amino acid (b) 
$$R^5 \longleftrightarrow O \times X \longleftrightarrow M \times M$$

$$\begin{array}{c} & & & \\ & &$$

$$(d) - HO OO_{2}CH_{3} + OCH_{3}$$

$$OCH_{3} + OCH_{3}$$

$$OCH_{3} + OCH_{3}$$

wherein PG is a carboxylic acid protecting group which is methyl, ethyl or t-butyl, and

$$R^{5} = Q = R^{2a} R^{2c}$$

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wherein x is 1, 2, 3 or 4; m is 1 or 2; n is 1 or 2;

Q is C or N:

A is O or S;

R1 is H or lower alkyl methyl;

X is CH

R<sup>2</sup> is H, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, amino or substituted amino;

R<sup>2a</sup>, R<sup>2b</sup> and R<sup>2c</sup> are the same or different and are selected from H[[,]] alkyl, alkexy, halogen, amino or substituted amino;

or stereoisomers thereof, or a prodrug ester thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 56. (Amended) The compound as defined in Claim 55 wherein  $(CH_2)_x$  is  $CH_{27}$ ,  $(CH_2)_2$ ,  $(CH_2)_3$ , or

(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub> is CH<sub>2</sub>, or

wherein  $R_a$  is alkyl or alkenyl,  $(CH_2)_n$  is  $CH_2$ ,  $R^1$  is lower alkyl, and  $R^{2a}$  H,  $R^4$  is H, X is CH; and PG is methyl, ethyl or t-butyl.

Claim 57. (Amended) The compound as defined in Claim 55 having the structure

$$\begin{array}{c} P h \\ \longrightarrow N \\ CH_3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
P h \\
CH_3
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
N \\
CO_2 tBu$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Ph \\ O \\ CH_3 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} N \\ CO_2CH_3 \end{array}$$
 , or

Claims 58 to 82. (Cancelled).